



without references

Sheet

1 of

3

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant
Shields et al.

Filing Date
November 20, 2003

Group Art Number
3739

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	4,655,216	Apr. 7, 1987	Tischer			
	5,219,354	Jun. 15, 1993	Choudhury et al.			
	5,601,601	Feb. 11, 1997	Tai et al.			
	5,961,514	Oct. 5, 1999	Long et al.			
	5,984,939	Nov. 16, 1999	Yoon			
	6,387,094	May 14, 2002	Eitenmuller			
↓	6,652,521	Nov. 25, 2003	Schulze			
AR	6,942,662	Sep. 13, 2005	Goble et al.			
Examiner Initial	Publication Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	US2002/0013583 A1	1/31/02	CAMRAN ET AL.			
	US2002/0099372 A1	7/25/02	SCHULZE ET AL.			
	US2002/0107517 A1	8/8/02	WITT ET AL.			
	US2002/0111624 A1	8/15/02	DAVID A. WITT ET AL.			
	US2003/0069571 A1	4/10/03	TREAT ET AL.			
	US2003/0139741 A1	7/24/03	GOBLE ET AL.			
	US2003/0139742 A1	7/24/03	WAMPLER ET AL.			
	US2003/0158549 A1	8/21/03	SWANSON			
↓	US2003/0199869 A1	10/23/03	JOHNSON ET AL.			
	US2003/0220637 A1	11/27/03	CSABA TRUCKAI ET AL.			
AR	US2003/0236325 A1	12/25/03	BONORA			

Examiner /Aaron Roane/

Date Considered
06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §809; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

without references

Sheet

2 of

3

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant
Shields et al.

Filing Date
November 20, 2003

Group Art Number
3739

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Publication Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	US2004/0049185 A1	3/11/04	LATTERELL ET AL.			
	US2004/0116979 A1	6/17/04	TRUCKAI ET AL.			
	US2004/0230189 A1	11/18/04	KEPPEL			
	US2005/0004564 A1	1/6/05	WHAM ET AL.			
	US2005/0033278 A1	2/10/05	MCCLURKEN ET AL.			
	US2005/0101851 A1	5/12/05	WHAM ET AL.			
	US2005/0101952 A1	5/12/05	LANDS ET AL.			
	US2005/0107784 A1	5/19/05	MOSES ET AL.			
	US2005/0107785 A1	5/19/05	DYCUS ET AL.			
	US2005/0113818 A1	5/26/05	SARTOR ET AL.			
	US2005/0113819 A1	5/26/05	WHAM ET AL.			
	US2005/0113826 A1	5/26/05	JOHNSON ET AL.			
	US2005/0113827 A1	5/26/05	DUMBAULD ET AL.			
	US2005/0113828 A1	5/26/05	SHIELDS ET AL.			
	US2005/0119655 A1	6/2/05	MOSES ET AL.			
V	US2005/0149151 A1	7/7/05	ORSZULAK ET AL.			
AR	US2006/0079891 A1	4/13/06	ARTS ET AL.			

Examiner /Aaron Roane/

Date Considered
06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3846)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
AR	EP1486177A2	6/11/04	EP				
	EP0875209A1	11/4/98	EP				
	EP0986990A1	3/22/00	EP				
	EP1330991A1	7/30/03	EP				
	EP1532932A1	5/25/05	EP				
	EP0878169A1	11/18/98	EP				
	DE 8712328	3/31/88	DE				
	WO 96/022056	7/25/96	PCT				
	WO 99/040861	8/19/99	PCT				
	WO 99/066850	12/29/99	PCT				
	WO 02/080796	10/17/02	PCT				
	WO 03/101311	12/11/03	PCT				
AR	WO 04/082495	9/30/04	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AR	Int'l Search Report EP 05013463.4
	dated September 28, 2005
	Int'l Search Report EP 05019130.3
	dated October 18, 2005
	Int'l Search Report EP 05020665.5
	dated February 16, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 05020666.3
	dated February 17, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 05021779.3
	dated January 18, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 05021197.8
	dated January 31, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 05021937.7
	dated January 13, 2006
	Int'l Search Report - extended- EP 05021937.7
	dated March 6, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 05023017.6
	dated February 16, 2006
	Int'l Search Report EP 05021780.1
	dated February 9, 2006
AR	Int'l Search Report EP 06002279.5
	dated March 22, 2006

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



with references

Sheet

2 of

3

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

AR		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
		JP501068	9/1984	Japan				
		JP502328	3/17/92	Japan				
		JP5-40112	2/19/93	Japan				
		JP2001128990A2	5/15/01	Japan				
		JP2001029356A2	2/6/01	Japan				
		JP2001008944A2	1/16/01	Japan				
		JP2000350732A2	12/19/00	Japan				
		JP2000342599A2	12/12/00	Japan				
		JP11244298A2	9/14/99	Japan				
		JP09010223A2	1/14/97	Japan				
		JP08252283A2	10/1/96	Japan				
		JP08056955A2	3/5/96	Japan				
		JP07265328A2	10/17/95	Japan				
		JP06343644A2	12/20/94	Japan				
		SU 401367	11/28/74	Russia				
		DE 19608716	4/17/97	DE				
		DE 29616210	1/2/97	DE				
		DE 19751108	5/20/99	DE				
		DE 2415263	10/2/75	DE				
		WO 00/24331	5/4/00	PCT				
		WO 02/07627	1/31/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080783	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080784	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080785	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080786	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080793	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080794	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080797	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/081170	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 04/032777	4/22/04	PCT				
		WO 04/073490	9/2/04	PCT				
		WO 04/103158	12/2/04	PCT				
		WO 95/07682	3/23/95	PCT				
AR		WO 97/10764	3/27/97	PCT				

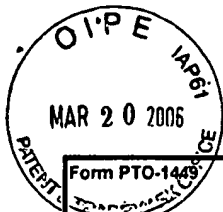
Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



with references

Sheet

3 of

3

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2938(203-3646)

Application Number

10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

AR

"Innovations in Electrosurgery"

Sales/Product Literature; December 31, 2000

LigaSure Vessel Sealing System, the Seal of Confidence in General, Gynecologic, Urologic, and Laparoscopic Surgery

Sales/Product Literature; January, 2004

Olsson et al. "Radical Cystectomy in Females"

Current Surgical Techniques in Urology, Vol. 14, Issue 3, 2001

Dulemba et al. "Use of a Bipolar Electrothermal Vessel Sealer in Laparoscopically Assisted Vaginal Hysterectomy"

Sales Product Literature; January, 2004

Johnson et al. "Evaluation of a Bipolar electrothermal Vessel Sealing Device in Hemorrhoidectomy"

Sales Product Literature; January, 2004

International Search Report PCT/US01/11224

dated November 13, 2001

International Search Report EP 98958575.7

dated September 20, 2002

International Search Report EP 04013772

dated April 1, 2005

International Search Report EP 05013895

dated October 14, 2005

AR

International Search Report EP 05017281

dated November 16, 2005

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



without references

Sheet

1 of

3

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2938(203-3646)

Application Number

10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	2,031,682	2/25/36	Wappler et al.			
	4,452,246	6/5/84	Bader et al.			
	4,600,007	7/15/86	Lahodny et al.			
	4,985,030	1/15/91	Melzer et al.			
	5,147,357	9/15/92	Rose et al.			
	5,443,463	8/22/95	Stern et al.			
	5,536,251	7/16/96	Evard et al.			
	5,573,424	11/12/96	Poppe			
	5,582,611	12/10/96	Tsukagoshi et al.			
	5,626,609	5/6/97	Zvenyatsky et al.			
	5,662,667	9/2/97	Knodel			
	5,716,366	02/10/98	Yates			
	5,735,848	04/07/98	Yates et al.			
	5,766,130	06/16/98	Selmonosky			
	5,797,938	08/25/98	Paraschac et al.			
	5,820,630	10/13/98	Lind			
	5,876,401	03/02/99	Schulze et al.			
	5,906,630	05/25/99	Anderhub et al.			
	5,944,718	08/31/99	Dafforn et al.			
	6,010,516	01/04/00	Hulka et al.			
	6,024,741	02/15/00	Williamson et al.			
	6,041,679	03/28/00	Slater et al.			
	6,096,037	08/01/00	Mulier et al.			
V	6,113,596	09/05/00	Hooven et al.			
AR	6,183,467	02/06/01	Shapeton et al.			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §809; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)Application Number
10/718,379Applicant
Shields et al.Filing Date
November 20, 2003Group Art Number
3739**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	6,270,508	08/07/01	Klieman et al.			
	6,280,458	08/28/01	Boche et al.			
	6,283,961	09/04/01	Underwood et al.			
	6,322,561	11/27/01	Eggers et al.			
	6,398,779	06/04/02	Buyse et al.			
	D457,959	5/28/02	Tetzlaff et al.			
	D496,997	10/05/04	Dycus et al.			
AR	D499,181	11/30/04	Dycus et al.			

U.S. PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Publication Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	US2003/0069571A1	4/10/03	Treat et al.			
	US2003/0139742A1	7/24/03	Wampler et al.			
	US2003/0158549A1	8/21/03	David K. Swanson			
	US2003/199869A1	10/23/03	Johnson et al.			
	US2003/0236325A1	11/25/04	Tetzlaff et al.			
	US2004/0147925A1	7/29/04	Buyse et al.			
	US2004/0225288A1	11/11/04	Buyse et al.			
	US2004/0243125A1	12/2/04	Dycus et al.			
	US2004/0249371A1	12/09/04	Dycus et al.			
	US2004/0249374A1	12/9/04	Tetzlaff et al.			
	US2004/0250419A1	12/16/04	Sremcich et al.			
	US2004/0254573A1	12/16/04	Dycus et al.			
	US2005/0004568A1	1/6/05	Lawes et al.			
	US2005/0004570A1	1/6/05	Chapman et al.			
	US2005/0021025A1	01/27/05	Buyse et al.			
	US2005/0021026A1	01/27/05	Baily			
AR	US2005/0021027A1	01/27/05	Shields et al.			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered
06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
AR	WO 94/08524 A	4/28/1994	PCT				
	WO 96/13218	9/5/1996	PCT				
	WO 99/12488 A	3/18/1999	PCT				
	WO 99/66850 A	12/29/1999	PCT				
	WO 01/17448 A	3/15/2001	PCT				
	WO 02/080795	10/17/2002	PCT				
	WO 02/080798	10/17/2002	PCT				
	WO 02/080799	10/17/2002	PCT				
	WO 2004/052221 A1	6/24/2004	PCT				
	WO 2004/082495 A1	9/30/2004	PCT				
	WO 2004/098383 A1	11/18/2004	PCT				
	EP 0624348A2	11/17/1994	EP				
	EP 1159926A2	12/5/2001	EP				
↓	DE19751108	5/20/1999	DE				
AR	DE 2415263	10/2/1975	DE				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AR	PCT/US01/11340	International Search Report
	PCT/US01/11420	International Search Report
	PCT/US02/01890	International Search Report
	PCT/US02/11100	International Search Report
	PCT/US04/03436	International Search Report
	PCT/US04/13273	International Search Report
	PCT/US04/15311	International Search Report
	EP 98944778	International Search Report
	EP 98958575	International Search Report
	EP 04027479	International Search Report
↓	EP 04027705	International Search Report
AR	EP 04027314	International Search Report

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



without references

Sheet

1 of

14

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	RE36795	7/25/00	RYDELL			
	371,664	10/18/1887	BRANNAN ET AL.			
	702,472	6/17/1902	PIGNOLET			
	728,883	5/26/1903	DOWNES			
	1,586,645	6/1/26	BIERMAN			
	2,002,594	5/28/35	WAPPLER ET AL.			
	2,011,169	8/13/35	F.C. WAPPLER			
	2,176,479	10/17/39	WILLIS			
	2,305,156	4/17/41	GRUBEL			
	2,632,661	8/14/48	CRISTOFV			
	2,668,538	2/9/54	BAKER			
	2,796,065	6/18/57	KAPP			
	3,459,187	3/9/67	PALLOTTA			
	3,643,663	2/22/72	SUTTER			
	3,651,811	3/28/72	HILDEBRANDT ET AL.			
	3,862,630	1/28/75	BALAMUTH			
	3,866,610	2/18/75	KLETSCHKA			
	3,911,766	10/14/75	FRIDOLPH ET AL.			
	3,920,021	11/18/75	HILTEBRANDT			
	3,921,641	11/25/75	HULKA			
	3,938,527	2/17/76	RIOUX ET AL.			
	3,952,749	4/27/76	FRIDOLPH ET AL.			
	4,005,714	2/1/77	HILTEBRANDT			
↓	4,074,718	2/21/78	MORRISON, JR.			
AR	4,088,134	5/9/78	MAZZARIELLO			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	4,165,746	8/28/79	BURGIN			
	4,300,564	11/17/81	FURIHATA			
	4,370,980	2/1/83	LOTTICK			
	4,492,231	1/8/85	AUTH			
	4,552,143	11/12/85	LOTTICK			
	4,574,804	3/11/86	KURWA			
	4,597,379	7/1/86	KIHN ET AL.			
	4,657,016	4/14/87	GARITO ET AL.			
	4,671,274	6/9/87	SOROCHENKO			
	4,685,459	8/11/87	XOCH ET AL.			
	4,783,669	8/16/88	JAEGER			
	4,827,929	5/9/89	HODGE			
	4,887,612	12/19/89	ESSER ET AL.			
	4,938,761	7/3/90	ENSSLIN			
	5,007,908	4/16/91	RYDELL			
	5,026,370	6/25/91	LOTTICK			
	5,099,840	3/31/92	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,116,332	5/26/92	LOTTICK			
	5,151,102	9/29/92	XAMIYAMA ET AL.			
	5,176,695	1/5/93	DULEBOHN			
	5,197,964	3/30/93	PARINS			
	5,215,101	6/1/93	JACOBS ET AL.			
	5,217,457	6/8/93	DELAHUERGA ET AL.			
	5,217,458	6/8/93	PARINS			
✓	5,244,462	9/14/93	DELAHUERGA ET AL.			
AR	5,250,047	10/5/93	RYDELL			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	5,258,006	11/2/93	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,261,918	11/16/93	PHILLIPS ET AL.			
	5,275,615	1/4/94	ROSE			
	5,277,201	1/11/94	STERN			
	5,282,799	2/1/94	RYDELL			
	5,290,286	3/1/94	PARINS			
	5,304,203	4/19/94	EL-MALLAWANY ET AL.			
	5,308,357	5/3/94	LICHTMAN			
	5,318,589	6/7/94	LICHTMAN			
	5,324,289	6/28/94	EGGERS			
	5,330,471	7/19/94	EGGERS			
	5,334,183	8/2/94	WUCHINICH			
	5,334,215	8/2/94	CHEN			
	5,336,221	8/9/94	ANDERSON			
	5,342,359	8/30/94	RYDELL			
	5,342,381	8/30/94	TIDEMAND			
	5,342,393	8/30/94	STACK			
	5,352,222	10/4/94	RYDELL			
	5,354,271	10/11/94	VODA			
	5,356,408	10/18/94	RYDELL			
	5,366,477	11/22/94	LEMARIE, III ET AL.			
	5,383,897	1/24/95	WHOLEY			
	5,389,098	2/14/95	TSURUTA ET AL.			
↓	5,389,104	2/14/95	HAHNEN ET AL.			
AR	5,391,166	2/21/95	EGGERS			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	5,391,183	2/21/95	JANZEN ET AL.			
	5,403,312	4/4/95	YATES ET AL.			
	5,411,519	5/2/95	TOVEY ET AL.			
	5,411,520	5/2/95	NASH ET AL.			
	5,413,571	5/9/95	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,415,657	5/18/95	TAYMOR-LURIA			
	5,423,810	6/13/95	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,425,739	6/20/95	JESSEN			
	5,429,616	7/4/95	SCHAFER			
	5,431,674	7/11/95	BASILE ET AL.			
	5,437,292	7/4/95	SCHAFER			
	5,438,302	8/1/95	GOBLE			
	5,441,517	8/15/95	KENSEY ET AL.			
	5,443,463	8/22/95	STERN ET AL.			
	5,443,464	8/22/95	RUSSELL ET AL.			
	5,443,480	8/22/95	JACOBS ET AL.			
	5,445,638	8/29/95	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,445,658	8/29/95	DURRFELD ET AL.			
	5,451,224	9/19/95	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,456,684	10/10/95	SCHMIDT ET AL.			
	5,458,598	10/17/95	FEINBERG ET AL.			
	5,460,629	10/24/95	SHLAIN ET AL.			
	5,462,546	10/31/95	RYDELL			
✓	5,472,443	12/5/95	CORDIS ET AL.			
AR	5,478,351	12/26/95	MEADE ET AL.			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	5,484,436	1/6/96	EGGERS ET AL.			
	5,496,317	3/5/96	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,499,997	3/19/96	SHARPE ET AL.			
	5,509,922	4/23/96	ARANYI ET AL.			
	5,514,134	5/7/96	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,527,313	6/18/96	SCOTT ET AL.			
	5,531,744	7/2/96	NARDELLA ET AL.			
	5,540,684	7/30/96	HASSLER, JR.			
	5,540,685	7/30/96	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,540,715	7/30/96	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,558,672	9/24/96	EDWARDS ET AL.			
	5,569,241	10/29/96	EDWARDDS			
	5,571,100	11/5/96	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,569,243	10/29/96	KORTENBACH ET AL.			
	5,573,535	11/12/96	VIKLUND			
	5,585,896	12/17/96	YAMAZAKI ET AL.			
	5,590,570	1/7/97	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,603,711	2/18/97	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,603,723	2/18/97	ARANYI ET AL.			
	5,626,578	5/6/97	TIHON			
	5,630,833	5/20/97	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,637,110	6/10/97	PENNYBACKER ET AL.			
	5,643,294	7/1/97	TOVEY ET AL.			
	5,647,869	7/15/97	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,647,871	7/15/97	LEVINE ET AL.			
AR	5,648,959	7/22/97	HANNAM ET AL.			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2938(203-3646)	Application Number 10/718,379
	Applicant Shields et al.	
	Filing Date November 20, 2003	Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	5,658,281	8/19/97	HEARD			
	5,667,526	9/16/97	LEVIN			
	5,674,220	10/7/97	FOX ET AL.			
	5,693,051	12/2/97	SCHULZE ET AL.			
	5,695,522	12/9/97	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,700,261	12/23/97	BRINKERHOFF			
	5,702,390	12/30/97	AUSTIN ET AL.			
	5,707,369	1/13/98	VAITEKUNAS ET AL.			
	5,709,680	1/20/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,727,428	3/17/98	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,743,906	4/28/98	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,755,717	5/26/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,766,166	6/16/98	HOOVEN			
	5,766,170	6/16/98	EGGERS			
	5,769,849	6/23/98	EGGERS			
	5,776,128	7/7/98	EGGERS			
	5,776,130	7/7/98	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	5,779,701	07/14/98	MCBRAYER ET AL.			
	5,792,137	8/11/98	CARR ET AL.			
	5,792,177	8/11/98	KASEDA			
	5,797,958	08/25/98	YOON			
	5,800,449	9/1/98	WALES			
	5,810,808	9/22/98	EGGERS			
	5,810,811	09/22/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,814,043	9/29/98	SHAPETON			
	5,827,271	10/27/98	BUYSSE ET AL.			
✓ AR	5,827,279	10/27/98	HUGHETT ET AL.			
	5,827,281	10/27/98	LEVIN			

Examiner /Aaron Roane/	Date Considered 06/21/2006
----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	5,833,690	11/10/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,843,080	12/1/98	FLEENOR ET AL.			
	5,849,022	12/15/98	SAKASHITA ET AL.			
	5,853,412	12/29/98	MAYENBERGER			
	5,891,141	4/6/99	RYDELL			
	5,891,142	4/6/99	EGGERS ET AL.			
	5,893,863	04/13/99	YOON			
	5,893,875	4/13/99	O'CONNOR ET AL.			
	5,902,301	5/11/99	OLIG			
	5,908,420	7/1/99	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,913,874	6/22/99	BERNS ET AL.			
	5,921,984	7/13/99	SUTCU ET AL.			
	5,935,126	8/10/99	RIZA			
	5,951,549	9/14/99	RICHARDSON ET AL.			
	5,954,720	9/21/99	WILSON ET AL.			
	5,976,132	11/2/99	MORRIS			
	5,989,277	11/23/99	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	6,004,335	12/21/99	VAITEKUNAS ET AL.			
	6,024,744	2/15/00	KESE ET AL.			
	6,033,399	3/7/00	GINES			
	6,039,733	3/21/00	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,050,996	4/18/00	SCHMALTZ ET AL.			
	6,053,914	4/25/00	EGGERS ET AL.			
	6,053,933	4/25/00	BALAZS ET AL.			
V	6,083,223	7/4/00	BAKER			
AR	6,086,586	7/11/00	HOOVEN			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant
Shields et al.

Filing Date
November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
AR	6,090,107	7/18/00	BORGMEIER ET AL.			
	6,090,109	7/18/00	LANDS ET AL.			
	6,098,031	8/1/00	MITCHELL ET AL.			
	6,099,550	8/8/00	YOON			
	6,099,539	8/8/00	HOWELL ET AL.			
	6,102,909	8/15/00	CHEN ET AL.			
	6,110,171	8/29/00	RYDELL			
	6,113,596	9/5/00	HOOVEN ET AL.			
	6,113,598	9/5/00	BAKER			
	6,126,858	10/3/00	BAKER			
	6,152,923	11/28/00	RYAN			
	6,174,309	1/16/01	WRUBLEWSKI ET AL.			
	6,179,834	1/30/01	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,179,837	1/30/01	HOOVEN			
	6,183,467	2/6/01	SHAPETON ET AL.			
	6,187,003	2/13/01	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,190,386	2/20/01	RYDELL			
	6,193,718	2/27/01	KORTENBACH ET AL.			
	6,206,876	3/27/01	LEVINE ET AL.			
	6,206,877	3/27/01	KESE ET AL.			
	6,206,896	3/27/01	HOWELL ET AL.			
	6,224,593	5/1/01	RYAN ET AL.			
	6,228,080	5/8/01	GINES			
	6,228,083	5/8/01	LANDS ET AL.			
	6,267,761	7/31/01	RYAN			
	6,273,887	8/14/01	YAMAUCHI ET AL.			
	6,273,902	8/14/01	FOGARTY ET AL.			
	6,277,117	8/21/01	TETZLAFF ET AL.			
AR	6,334,860	1/1/02	DORN			

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2938(203-3646)	Application Number 10/718,379
	Applicant Shields et al.	
	Filing Date November 20, 2003	Group Art Number

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
AR		EP1082944A1	3/14/01	EP				
		EP1080694A1	3/7/01	EP				
		EP1055400A1	11/29/00	EP				
		EP1055399A1	11/29/00	EP				
		EP1053720A1	11/22/00	EP				
		EP1053719A1	11/22/00	EP				
		EP1050278A1	11/8/00	EP				
		EP1034746A3	10/18/00	EP				
		EP1025807A3	10/4/00	EP				
		EP1034748A1	9/13/00	EP				
		EP1034747A1	9/13/00	EP				
		EP0923907A1	6/23/99	EP				
		EP0887046A3	1/13/99	EP				
		EP0754437A3	3/19/97	EP				
		EP0717966A1	6/26/96	EP				
		EP0694290A3	3/13/96	EP				
		EP0650701A1	5/3/95	EP				
		EP0623316A1	11/9/94	EP				
		EP0364216A1	4/18/90	EP				
		EPO518230A1	12/16/92	EP				
		EP0 541 930 B1	5/19/93	EP				
		EP0572131	12/1/93	EP				
V		EPO584787A1	3/2/94	EP				
AR		EPO853922A1	7/22/98	EP				

Examiner /Aaron Roane/	Date Considered 06/21/2006
----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
2938(203-3646)

Application Number
10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
AR	JP5-40112	not avail.	Japan				
	JP2001128990A2	5/15/01	Japan				
	JP2001029356A2	2/6/01	Japan				
	JP2001008944A2	1/16/01	Japan				
	JP2000350732A2	12/19/00	Japan				
	JP2000342599A2	12/12/00	Japan				
	JP11244298A2	9/14/99	Japan				
	JP09010223A2	1/14/97	Japan				
	JP08252263A2	10/1/96	Japan				
	JP08056955A2	3/5/96	Japan				
	JP07265328A2	10/17/95	Japan				
	JP06343644A2	12/20/94	Japan				
	SU401367		Russia				
	WO 92/06642	4/30/92	PCT				
	WO 95/02369	1/26/95	PCT				
	WO 97/00646	1/9/97	PCT				
	WO 97/00647	1/9/97	PCT				
	WO 97/24073	7/10/97	PCT				
	WO 97/24993	7/17/97	PCT				
	WO 98/27880	7/2/98	PCT				
	WO 99/03407	1/28/99	PCT				
	WO 99/03408	1/28/99	PCT				
	WO 99/03409	1/28/99	PCT				
	WO 99/40857	8/19/99	PCT				
	WO 99/51158	10/14/99	PCT				
	WO 00/24330	5/4/00	PCT				
	WO 00/41638	7/20/00	PCT				
	WO 00/53112	9/14/00	PCT				
	WO 01/54604	8/2/01	PCT				
	WO 02/080796 A1	10/17/02	PCT				
	DE 19608716	4/17/97	DE				
	2,214,430A	6/9/89	GB				
AR	2,104,423	2/25/94	CANADA				

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2938(203-3646)

Application Number

10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AR

Sigel et al. "The Mechanism of Blood Vessel Closure by High Frequency Electrocoagulation"

SURGERY GYNECOLOGY & OBSTETRICS, OCT 1965 pp. 823-831

Bergdahl et al. "Studies on Coagulation and the Development of an Automatic Computerized Bipolar Coagulator"

J.NEurosurg. VOL.75, JULY 1991, pp 148-151

Kennedy et al. "High-burst-strength, feedback-controlled bipolar vessel sealing"

SURGICAL ENDOSCOPY (1998) 12: 876-878

Peterson et al. "Comparison of Healing Process Following Ligation with Sutures and Bipolar Vessel Sealing"

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL (2001)

Linehan et al. "A Phase I Study of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Hepatic Surgery"

Section of HPB Surger, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis MO, Presented at AHPBA, February 2001

Johnson et al. "Evaluation of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Hemorrhoidectomy"

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS (ACS) CLINICAL CONGRESS POSTER (2000)

Sayfan et al. "Sutureless Closed Hemorrhoidectomy: A New Technique"

ANNALS OF SURGERY Vol.234 No.1 July 2001 pp. 21-24

Heniford et al. "Initial Results with an Electrothermal Bipolar Vessel Sealer"

SURGICAL ENDOSCOPY (2000) 15:799-801

Heniford et al. "Initial Research and Clinical Results with an Electrothermal Bipolar Vessel Sealer"

10/99

McLellan et al. "Vessel Sealing for Hemostasis During Pelvic Surgery"

INT'L FEDERATION OF GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS FIGO WORLD CONGRESS 2000, Washington, D.C.

Levy et al. "Use of a New Energy-based Vessel Ligation Device During Vaginal Hysterectomy"

INT'L FEDERATION OF GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS (FIGO) WORLD CONGRESS

Crawford et al. "Use of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Urologic Cancer Surger"

GRAND ROUNDS IN UROLOGY 1999 Vol. 1 Issue 4 pp.10-17

Rothenberg et al. "Use of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Minimally Invasive Surgery in Children"

INT'L PEDIATRIC ENDOSURGERY GROUP (IPEG) 2000

Palazzo et al. "Randomized clinical trial of Ligasure versus open haemorrhoidectomy"

BRITISH JOURNAL OF SURGERY 2002, 89, 154-157

"Innovations in Electrosurgery"

Sales/Product Literature

LigaSure Vessel Sealing System, the Seal of Confidence in General, Gynecologic, Urologic, and Laparoscopic Surgery

Sales/Product Literature

Carboneil et al., "Comparison of the GyruS PlasmaKinetic Sealer and the Valleylab LigaSure Device in the Hemostasis of Small, Medium, and Large-Sized Arteries"

Carolinas Laparoscopic and Advanced Surgery Program, Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte, NC

"Reducing Needlestick Injuries in the Operating Room"

Sales/Product Literature

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2938(203-3646)	Application Number 10/7 18,379
	Applicant Shields et al.	
	Filing Date November 20, 2003	Group Art Number

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AR	Chung et al., "Clinical Experience of Sutureless Closed Hemorrhoidectomy with LigaSure"
	Diseases of the Colon & Rectum Vol. 48, No. 1 January 2003
	Strasberg et al., "Use of a Bipolar Vessel-Sealing Device for Parenchymal Transection During Liver Surgery"
	Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, Vol. 6, No. 4, July/August 2002 pp.569-574
	Paul G. Horgan, "A Novel Technique for Parenchymal Division During Hepatectomy"
	The American Journal of Surgery, Vol. 181, No. 3, April 2001 pp. 238-237
	W. Scott Helton, "LigaSure Vessel Sealing System: Revolutionary Hemostasis Product for General Surgery"
	Sales/Product Literature
	Michael Choti, "Abdominoperineal Resection with the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System and LigaSure Atlas 20 cm Open Instrument"
	Innovations That Work, June 2003
	Craig Johnson, "Use of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Bloodless Hemorrhoidectomy"
	Innovations That Work, March 2000
	Muller et al., "Extended Left Hemicolectomy Using the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System"
	Innovations That Work, September 1999
	Herman et al., "Laparoscopic Intestinal Resection With the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System: A Case Report"
	Innovations That Work, February 2002
	Carus et al., "Initial Experience With The LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Abdominal Surgery"
	Innovations That Work, June 2002
	Levy et al. "Randomized Trial of Suture Versus Electrosurgical Bipolar Vessel Sealing in Vaginal Hysterectomy"
	Obstetrics & Gynecology, Vol. 102, No. 1, July 2003
	Levy et al., "Update on Hysterectomy - New Technologies and Techniques"
	OBG Management, February 2003
	Barbara Levy, "Use of a New Vessel Ligation Device During Vaginal Hysterectomy"
	FIGO 2000, Washington, D.C.
	McLellan et al. "Vessel Sealing For Hemostasis During Gynecologic Surgery"
	Sales/Product Literature
	Sengupta et al., "Use of a Computer-Controlled Bipolar Diathermy System in Radical Prostatectomies and Other Open Urological Surgery"
	ANZ Journal of Surgery (2001) 71.9 pp. 538-540
	Olsson et al. "Radical Cystectomy in Females"
	Current Surgical Techniques in Urology, Vol. 14, Issue 3
AR	E. David Crawford "Use of a Novel Vessel Sealing Technology in Management of the Dorsal Veinous Complex"
	Sales/Product Literature

Examiner /Aaron Roane/	Date Considered 06/21/2006
----------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2938(203-3646)

Application Number

10/718,379

Applicant

Shields et al.

Filing Date

November 20, 2003

Group Art Number

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AR

Jarrett et al., "Use of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System for Peri-Hilar Vessels in Laparoscopic Nephrectomy"

Sales/Product Literature

E. David Crawford "Evaluation of a New Vessel Sealing Device in Urologic Cancer Surgery"

Sales/Product Literature

Joseph Ortenberg "LigaSure System Used in Laparoscopic 1st and 2nd Stage Orchiopexy"

Innovations That Work, November 2002

Koyle et al., "Laparoscopic Palomo Varicocele Ligation in Children and Adolescents"

Pediatric Endosurgery & Innovative Techniques, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2002

Dulemba et al. "Use of a Bipolar Electrothermal Vessel Sealer in Laparoscopically Assisted Vaginal Hysterectomy"

Sales/Product Literature

Johnson et al. "Evaluation of a Bipolar electrothermal Vessel Sealing Device in Hemorrhoidectomy"

Sales/Product Literature

Int'l Search Report PCT/US01/11218

Int'l Search Report PCT/US99/24869

Int'l Search Report PCT/US98/18640

AR

Int'l Search Report PCT/US98/23950

Examiner

/Aaron Roane/

Date Considered

06/21/2006

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.